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(71) Applicant and

(72) Inventor: SMYTH, Larry, C. [CA/US]; 42 Chesapeake
Landing, Annapolis, MD 21403 (US).

(74) Agent: SCHWARTZ, Jeffrey, J.; Schwartz Law Firm,
P.C., South Park Towers, Suite 530, 6100 Fairview Road,
Charlotte, NC 28210 (US).

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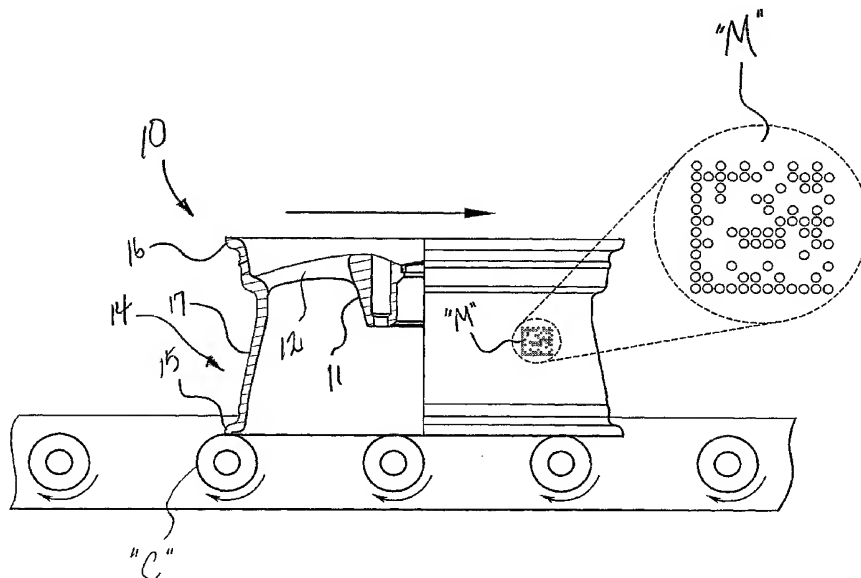
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR ELECTRONICALLY IDENTIFYING A CODED PART



(57) Abstract: A method for electronically identifying a coded part includes the step of locating a machine-readable area relief pattern formed with a surface of the part. The relief pattern includes separate and distinct code elements extending along both x and y axes. Each code element has a profile dimension extending along a z-axis relative to a native surface of the part. A region of interest containing the area relief pattern is then measured along the x, y, and z axes. The area relief pattern is then extracted from the measured region of interest. The area relief pattern is then decoded to extract part information encoded in the relief pattern.

WO 2005/084884 A1